

REMARKS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claim rejections set forth in the Office action dated August 21, 2006.

Summary

Claims 1-6 are pending.

Rejection of Claims

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rosenberg (U.S. Patent 5,825,308) and Claims 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rosenberg in view of Watanabe (U.S. Patent 6,285,347).

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, the control unit calculates a deviation between the direction of the destination position as seen from the reference point in the display unit and the direction of manipulation of the manipulation unit.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's interpretation as set forth in the Office communication dated August 21, 2006. Claim 1 recites a deviation between two directions – (1) the direction of the destination position and (2) the direction of manipulation of the manipulation unit. The Examiner states that the "deviation is the amount of deviation in the direction of manipulation" (Office action dated August 21, 2006, page 2). Applicants respectfully disagree. As recited in claim 1, the deviation is between two directions. The Examiner's interpretation only accounts for one of the two directions.

The Examiner states "the specification does not describe the angle between two directions" (Office action dated August 21, 2006, page 2). Applicants respectfully disagree. At least page 15 of the originally filed patent document recites "(2) Calculation of the deviation between the direction of the destination position B as seen from the reference point A and the direction of manipulation of the manipulation unit 22."

The Examiner states "in Fig. 5B, the actuator driving signal is a function of distance" and the "embodiment of Fig. 5C also describes "a deviation" in relation to the variation of distance". (Office action dated August 21, 2006, page 3). However,

Fig. 5B and Fig. 5C do not relate to recited claim 1. A strict interpretation of Fig. 5A is inconsistent with the description of calculation (2) as described on page 15 of the originally filed patent document. Accordingly, the deviation should be correctly interpreted as the angle between two directions.

Rosenberg fails to suggest the arrangement of claim 1. More specifically, Rosenberg does not teach, for example, a control unit that calculates a deviation between the direction of the destination position as seen from the reference point in the display unit and the direction of manipulation of the manipulation unit. In fact, Rosenberg actually teaches a contrary arrangement that calculates only deviations from a particular local origin (col. 43, lines 65-66). For example, Rosenberg fails to teach or suggest calculating the deviation between the direction of the destination position and the direction of manipulation of the manipulation unit.

Rosenberg discloses a deviation of distance. However, Rosenberg never discloses deviation of an angle. Rosenberg discloses using a single direction to determine the displacement direction "e.g. if the displacement is in the left direction, then the view is panned to the left." (col. 43, line 32). Thus, the arrangement of claim 1 is distinguishable from Rosenberg because Rosenberg discloses a deviation of distance and not a deviation of angle. Thus, claim 1 is allowable over the cited art for at least these reasons.

Dependent claims 2-6 depend from allowable Claim 1, so are allowable for at least this reason.

Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and seeks an allowance thereof. If for any reason the Examiner is unable to allow the application in the next Office Action and believes that a telephone interview would be helpful to resolve any remaining issues, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney or agent.

Respectfully submitted,



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